

OFFICE OF THE DD/I

24 June 1974

NOTE FOR THE DIRECTOR

FROM : Ed Proctor

SUBJECT: Soviet Civil Defense

At your last session with PFIAB, Dr. Teller raised the question of Soviet Civil Defense. You sent me a note saying that you told PFIAB that we would take a look at the problem and asking me whether we could.

We in intelligence have had a running controversy with some AEC people who have studied the Soviet literature on the subject. Their view is that the Soviets have a highly sophisticated program for:

- protecting the central command authority in hardened facilities,
- clearing the other people from population centers, and
- providing supplies and rudimentary shelters to protect these displaced people from fall-out.

According to AEC, all this adds up to a Soviet capability to reduce the number of deaths significantly in the event of a nuclear exchange. Dr. Teller has been exposed to this proposition.

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The CIA and DIA people who work on this problem are fully aware of AEC's work and have argued with AEC over the years without either side convincing the other. Although acknowledging the existence of the Soviet literature--plans, directives, etc.--on the subject, our people believe that the Soviets have not put the resources into the program and that it would not be very effective.

Attached is a memo from Hank Knoche on the present situation. Although he has an analyst following this subject, we just don't have the resources to do yet another thorough study.

We and DIA are working on 3 or 4 pages of text on Soviet Civil Defense to be included in NIE 11-3/8-74. If you wish, you could use this as a "new look" at the problem. I really don't believe that this--or even a full restudy of the subject--will satisfy Dr. Teller, mainly because it is unlikely to agree with his preconceptions.